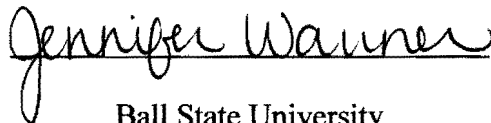


**Public Art in Muncie**

An Honors Thesis  
HONRS 499

A creative project by  
Jessica Maglinger

Thesis Advisor  
Jennifer Warner

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Warner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Ball State University  
Muncie, Indiana

May 2, 2008

Expected Date of Graduation: May 3, 2008

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## **Abstract**

This booklet is an attempt to encourage the preservation and development of public art in Muncie. Each page contains information about the history, meaning and style of a local public art piece. Photography also attempts to capture the spirit of the pieces. Recent changes such as the legalization of graffiti on the greenways and the addition of more modern art communicates Muncie's desire to develop a more involved art culture publicly. Twelve pieces are included: Passing of the Buffalo, Beneficence, The Unity Pass, Catalyst, Paul Bunyan, Vietnam Veteran Valor Monument, George F. McCulloch, The Statues of Industry and Agriculture, Greenway Graffiti, Appeal to the Great Spirit, Wait for Me, and Night Song. A map also locates the art pieces and encourages readers to explore Muncie.

May 2, 2008

## Muncie Public Art Guide

### **Goal**

My goal for this project was not to show a complete collection of Muncie's public art but to collect information on a representative sample. I have attempted to select the twelve most engaging, unique, and historically significant pieces research allows. With this project, I hope to encourage the exploration of art in Muncie and preservation of the unique character the city relates through its public pieces.

### **Community**

Through my research I have communicated with public organizations and officials who have shown an interest in utilizing my project. For example, I plan to donate copies of my thesis to Muncie Public Libraries for their monument and art collections. I am also speaking with the Muncie Children's Museum about the possibility of distributing my book.

### **Research**

While conducting research, I found myself discouraged by the lack of public art resources. However, between Muncie's libraries, city departments and newspaper articles a majority of the information came to light. The research was exciting, however, because in the process of tracking down the history of many of the pieces, I discovered a lot about Muncie as a city.

### **Photography**

This project allowed for challenging and unique photography opportunities. I attempted to capture the pieces in an original way. I feel that my personal creativity was

allowed to expand through this process because photography is a form of design and information collecting that I do not often have the opportunity to explore.

### **Design**

The concept for this booklet was inspired by Evansville, Indiana's public art book, however, I attempted to give the project a unique character through design. I wanted to present the pieces in a clean format that allows readers to develop their own impression of the works. I also wanted to highlight the photographs in the most dominant fashion possible.

### **Regrets**

One of the interesting, exciting and disappointing aspects of this project is that public art was emerging throughout the city as I developed my thesis. This was disappointing because I could not continually revise the focus of the pieces I choose. I still maintain that I am presenting a representative sample of the public art in Muncie; however, I would have liked to be able to document every piece.